

# Proper Removal of Soluble Salts After Detecting Their Presence

--Prevent Premature Coating Failures  
--Enhance Straightforward Maintenance Procedures

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- Awareness
- Recognition
- Elimination

*Objective: Reduce liability of premature coating failure from corrosion*

*Goal: Achieve full life cycle coating performance*

# Reality Check

- “Prior to 1995, it is estimated that at least 3 out of 4 contractors suffered major failures during projects or shortly thereafter. Most coatings did not survive more than 5 to 7 years. Now with changes, **including (soluble salt remover)**, we have an approximately 70 to 90% reduction in lifecycle costs, have reduced premature coating failures and increased service life.”

*Non vendor specific edit*

# What are Soluble Salts?

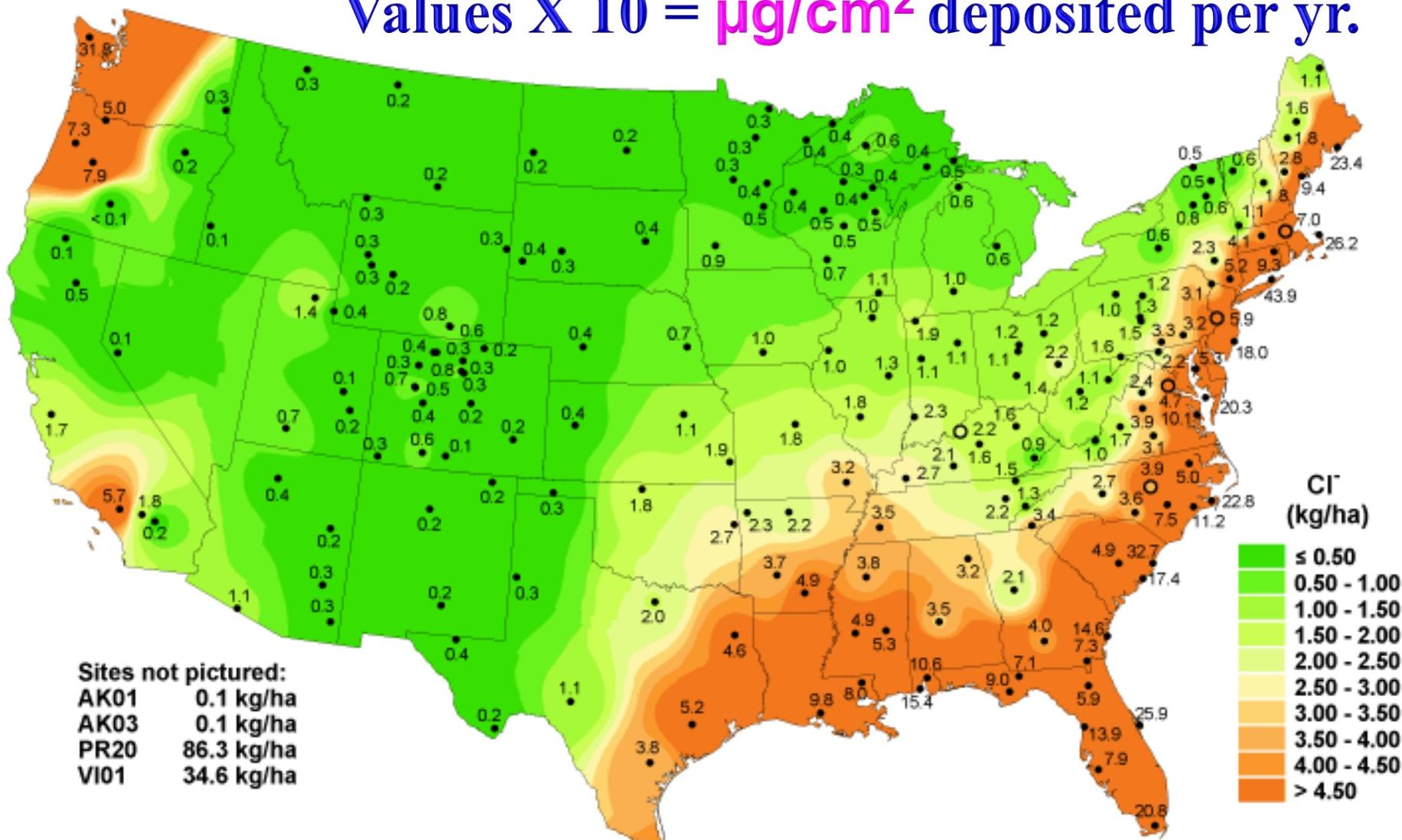
- Ionic *contaminants*
- *Water soluble* inorganic compounds
- Primarily *chlorides, sulfates, and nitrates*
- *Non-visible* contaminants
- Can bond *electrochemically* to the metal substrate

# Sources

- Marine bodies (sea water-chlorides)
- De-icing salts (chlorides)
- Acid rain (sulfates/nitrates):
  - Stack gases
  - Auto/vehicle emissions
- Chemical processes (many combinations of salts)
- Water and sewage treatment facilities
- Lightning
- Abrasives (chlorides/sulfates)

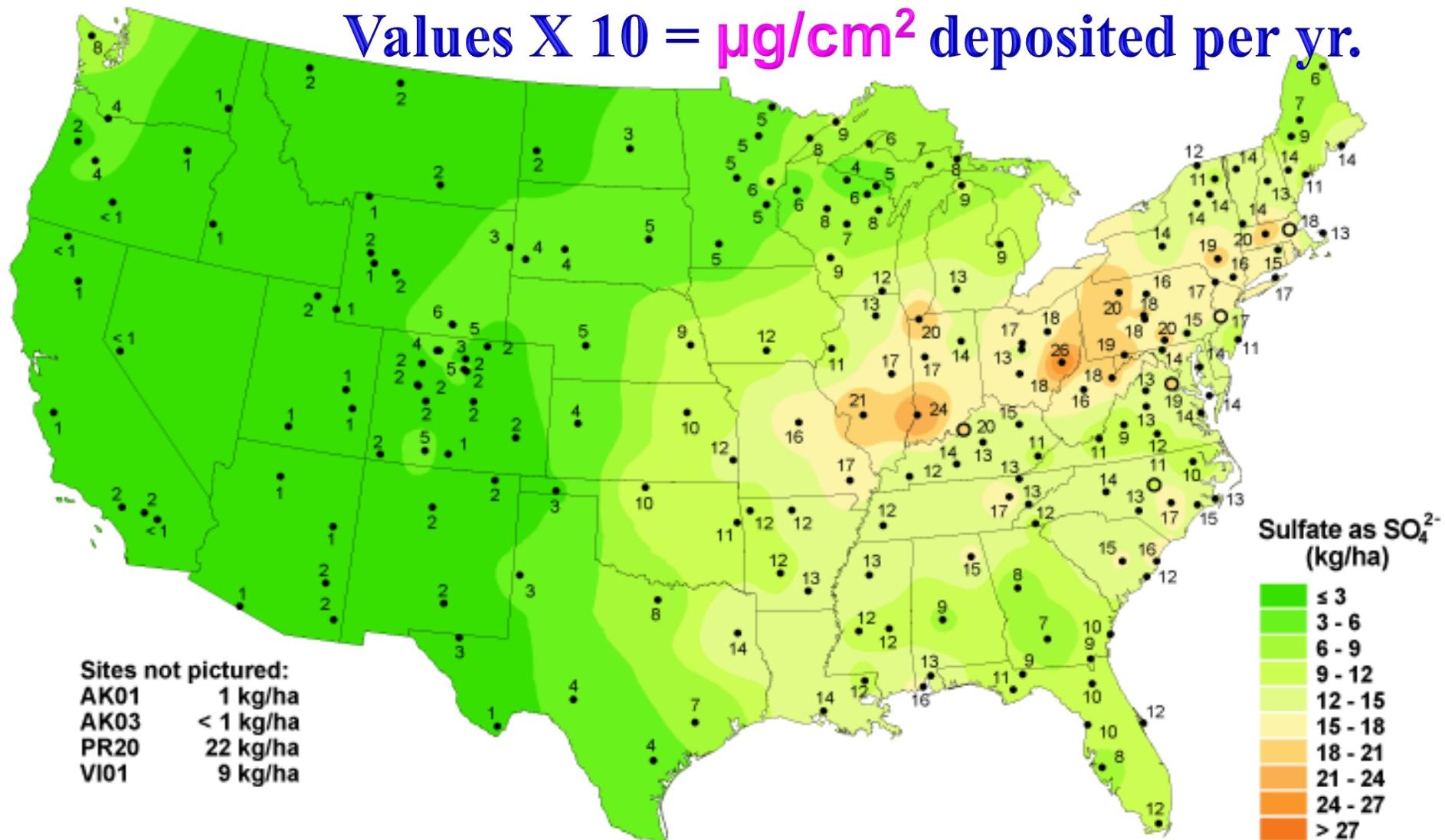
# Chloride ion wet deposition, 2008

Values X 10 =  $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  deposited per yr.



## Sulfate ion wet deposition, 2008

Values  $\times 10 = \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  deposited per yr.



# Sulfuric Acid Reigns Supreme

[http://www.turi.org/library/turi\\_publications/massachusetts\\_chemical\\_fact\\_sheets](http://www.turi.org/library/turi_publications/massachusetts_chemical_fact_sheets)

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such as automotive aerosol parts cleaners and degreasers. PCE is reported to be the chemical most widely found in groundwater contamination at Superfund sites. [Read more...](#)

**Sulfuric Acid and Fuming Sulfuric Acid**

Sulfuric acid is a corrosive toxic chemical that causes direct effects ranging from irritation to burns on the skin, eyes, and respiratory tract. Massachusetts businesses consumed almost 45 million pounds of sulfuric acid, **the world's most widely used chemical**, in the production of chemicals, electricity, food products, paper products, electronics, textiles, leather goods, and electroplated parts. Fuming sulfuric acid is used to transport high concentrations of acid. [Download PDF file \(47.99 kB\)](#)

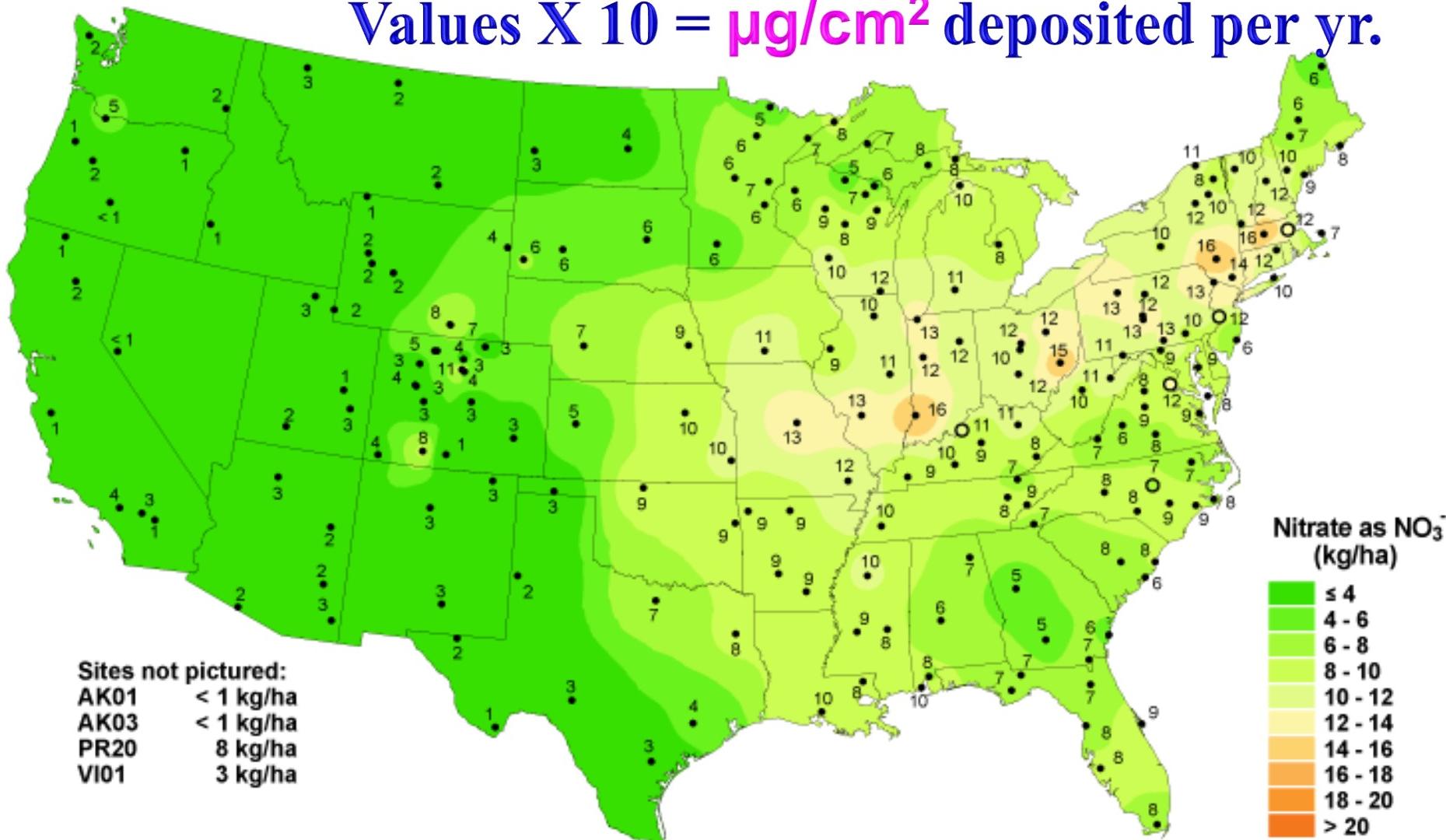
1 2 [Next >>](#)

Toxics Use Reduction Institute  
[University of Massachusetts Lowell](#)

One University Avenue Lowell, MA 01854. 978-934-3275 - [Contact Us](#)

# Nitrate ion wet deposition, 2008

Values X 10 =  $\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  deposited per yr.



# Non-visible

- Visually clean substrates are not adequate
- Soluble salts require testing to be detected
- Which salt is the problem? - Primarily dependent on service environment

# Microgram per square centimeter

- Pinky fingerprint approximates 1 square centimeter



- M&M candy sliced into *one million pieces*
  - single slice = 1 microgram

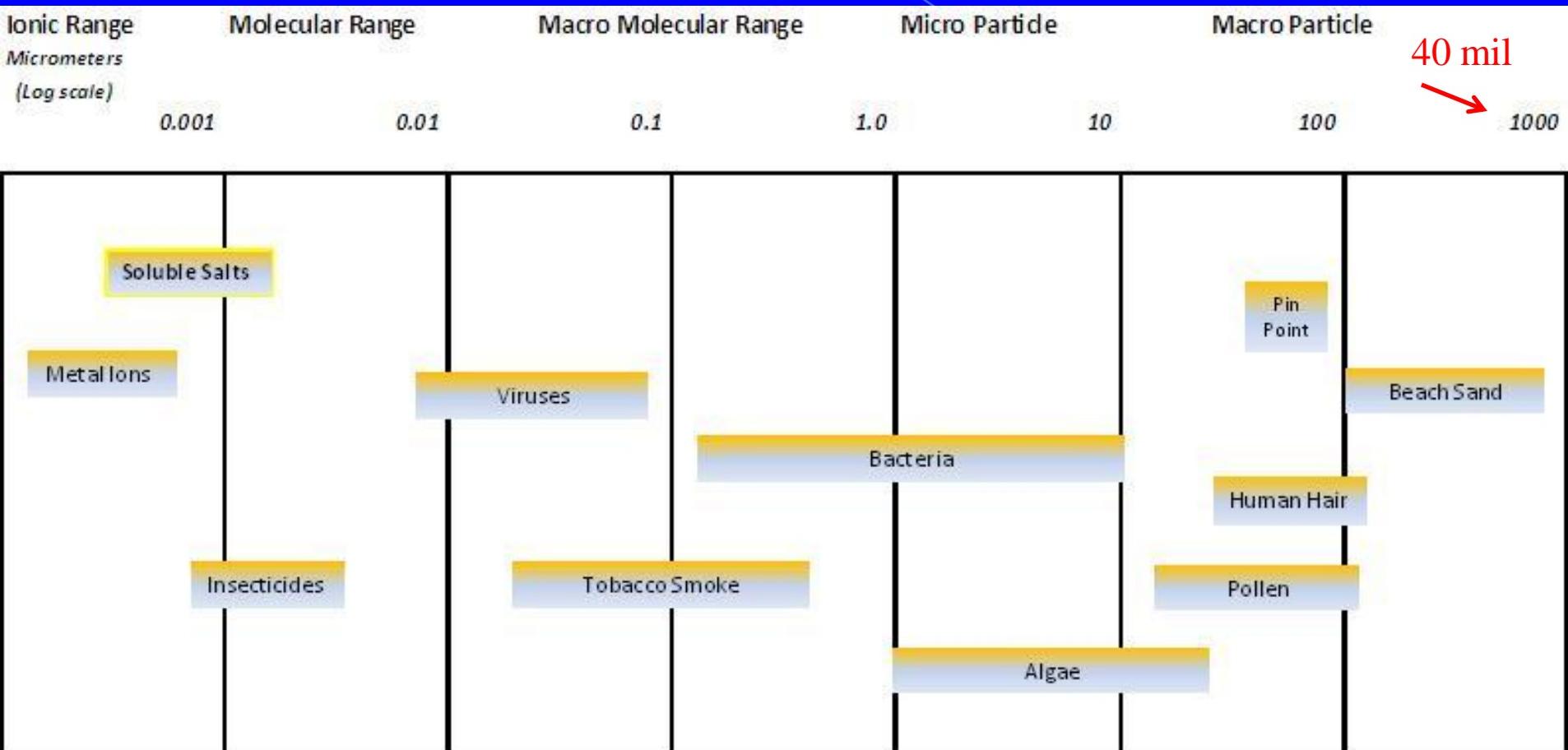


- Salt packet from McDonalds for fries
  - dissolved in water
  - then spread over 1,000 sq ft would **deposit**

*1 microgram per square centimeter*

$\mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$

# Relative Size Chart



ST Microscope

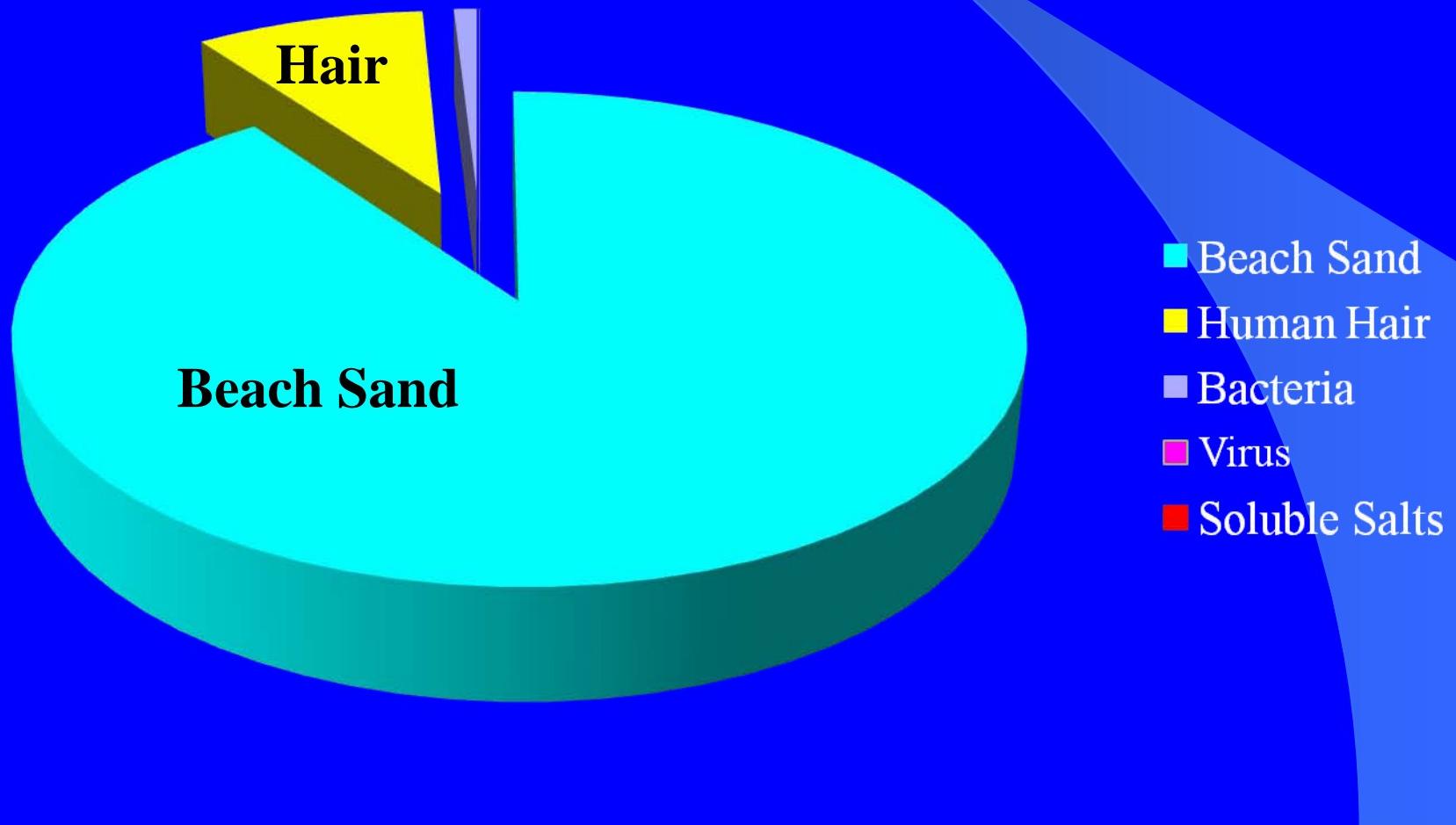
Scanning Electron Microscope

Optical Microscope

Visible to Naked Eye

# Perspective -- Sizing

## Relative Size

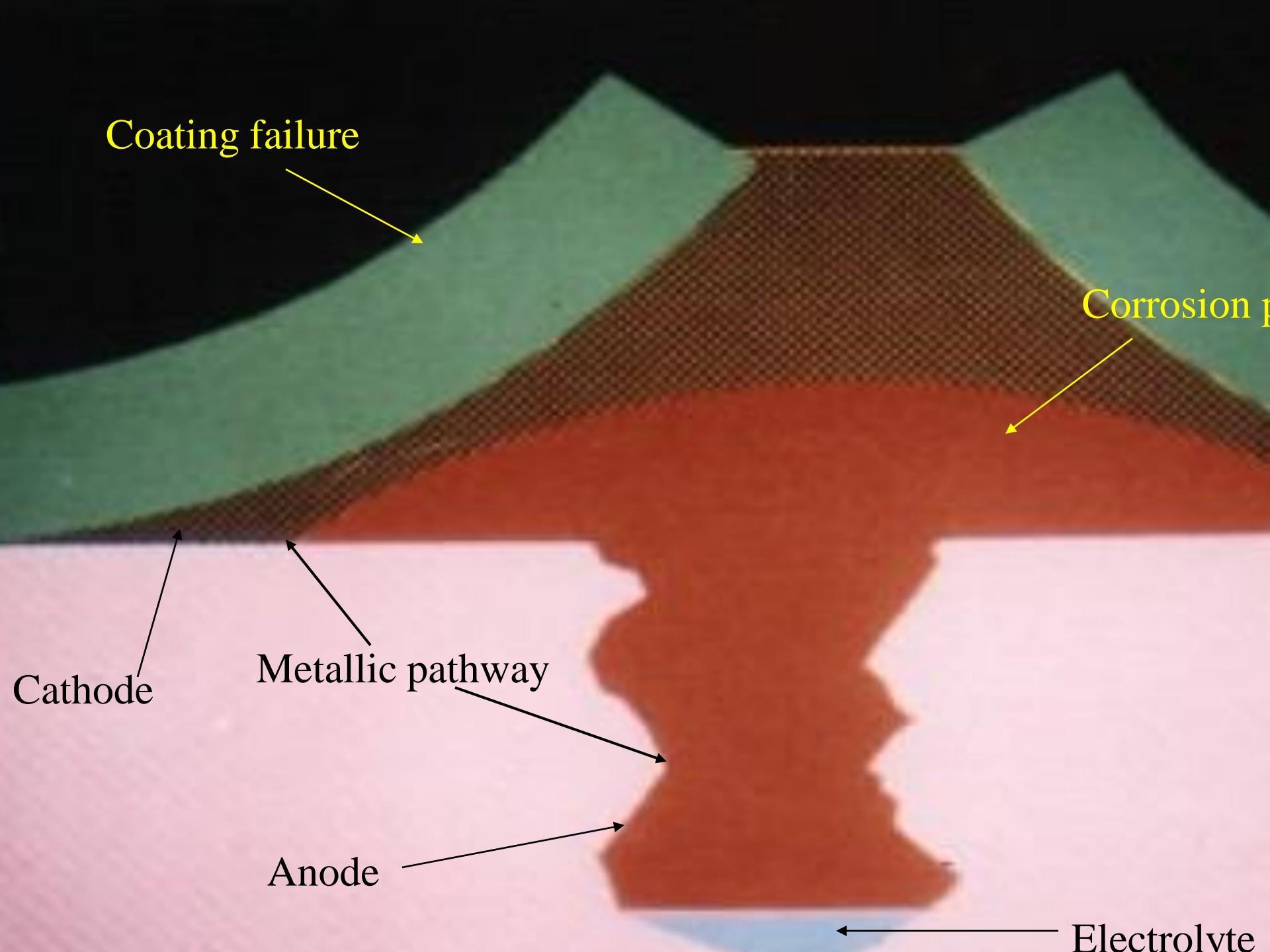


# Detrimental Effects of Salts

- Interferes with adhesion
- Accelerates corrosion
- Causes blistering of coatings

# Corrosion Cell

- A corrosion cell consists of 4 components
- An anode (“-” provided by steel itself)
- A cathode (“+” provided by steel itself)
- A metallic pathway (provided by steel itself)
- An electrolyte (**salt** + moisture = electrolyte)



# Electrolyte—the **ONE** and **ONLY** variable we *can control is...*

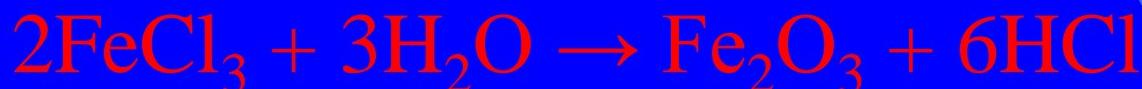
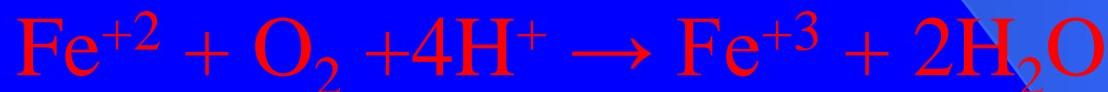
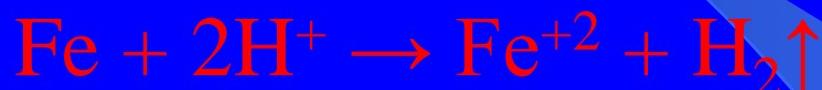
- Salts are hygroscopic = Draw moisture
- All liquid applied coatings are permeable and salts will draw moisture through the coating film, thereby providing the electrolyte needed for corrosion activity
- Some coatings are less permeable than others

# Osmotic Blisters

- The same hygroscopic action which causes corrosion also causes osmotic blistering
- The hygroscopic action of salts builds up pressure within a blister which can exceed the bond strength of the coating

# Salt Corrosion Cycle

Iron + Salt + Moisture = RUST + Acid



Without remediation, repeat reaction cycle

# Analysis methods

Two distinct methods:

- Conductivity – measures all conductive constituents.
- Ion specific – measures the specific ion of concern; chloride, sulfate, or nitrate.

# Conductivity Method

- Measures everything conductive in the sample.
- Many species are not detrimental to the coating film nor induce premature coating failure.
- Measures all minerals.
- Conversion to chloride level is an estimate.
  - Assumes a lab correlation based on 100% chlorides.
  - Conductivity and reactivity are different.

# Detecting Soluble Salts

- **Extraction methods**

- Swabbing (DI water) [25 – 35%]
- Patch Cell (DI water) [45 – 60%]
- Wet filter paper (DI water) [??]
- Magnetic cell (DI water) [45 – 60%]
- Sleeve method (proprietary acid solution) [80%]
- Boiling (lab; destructive field sample) [90 – 95%]

- **Quantitative analysis**

(Sources: SSPC TU4; Third party laboratories)

# Chloride Analysis by Ion Detection Tubes

- Sealed ampoule, break both ends and immerse in extract solution
- Cl<sup>-</sup> read from calibrated tube in PPM and micrograms per square centimeter
- ISO 8502-5

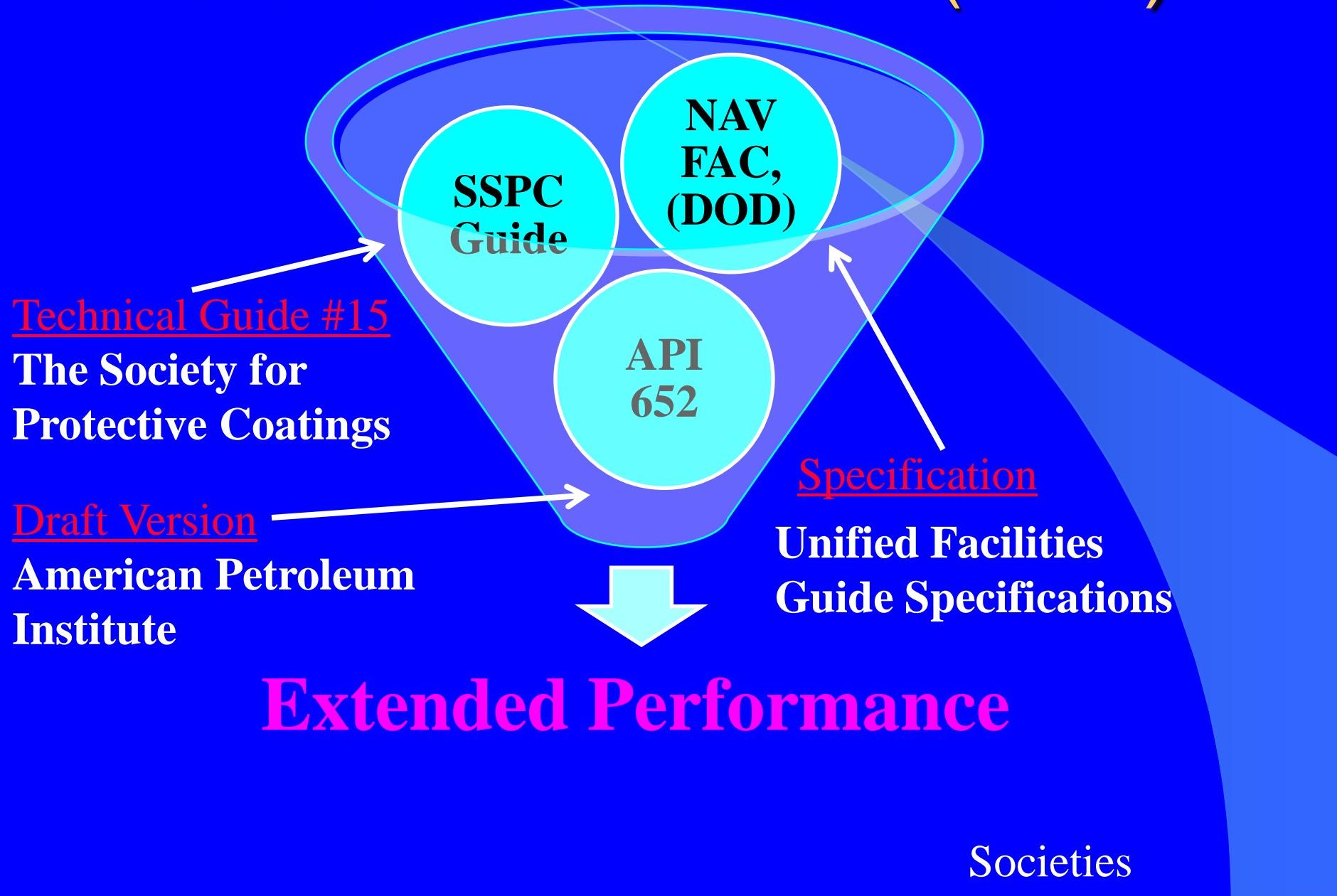
# Analysis of Sulfate

- *Electronic turbidity method*
  - Add barium chloride to extract solution to form  $BaSO_4$
  - Measure absorbency/transmittance
- *New Field Test Kit*
- *ISO 8502-11*
  - Maryland Bridge
  - I-95 Delaware
  - Casciano Bridge near Newark A/P

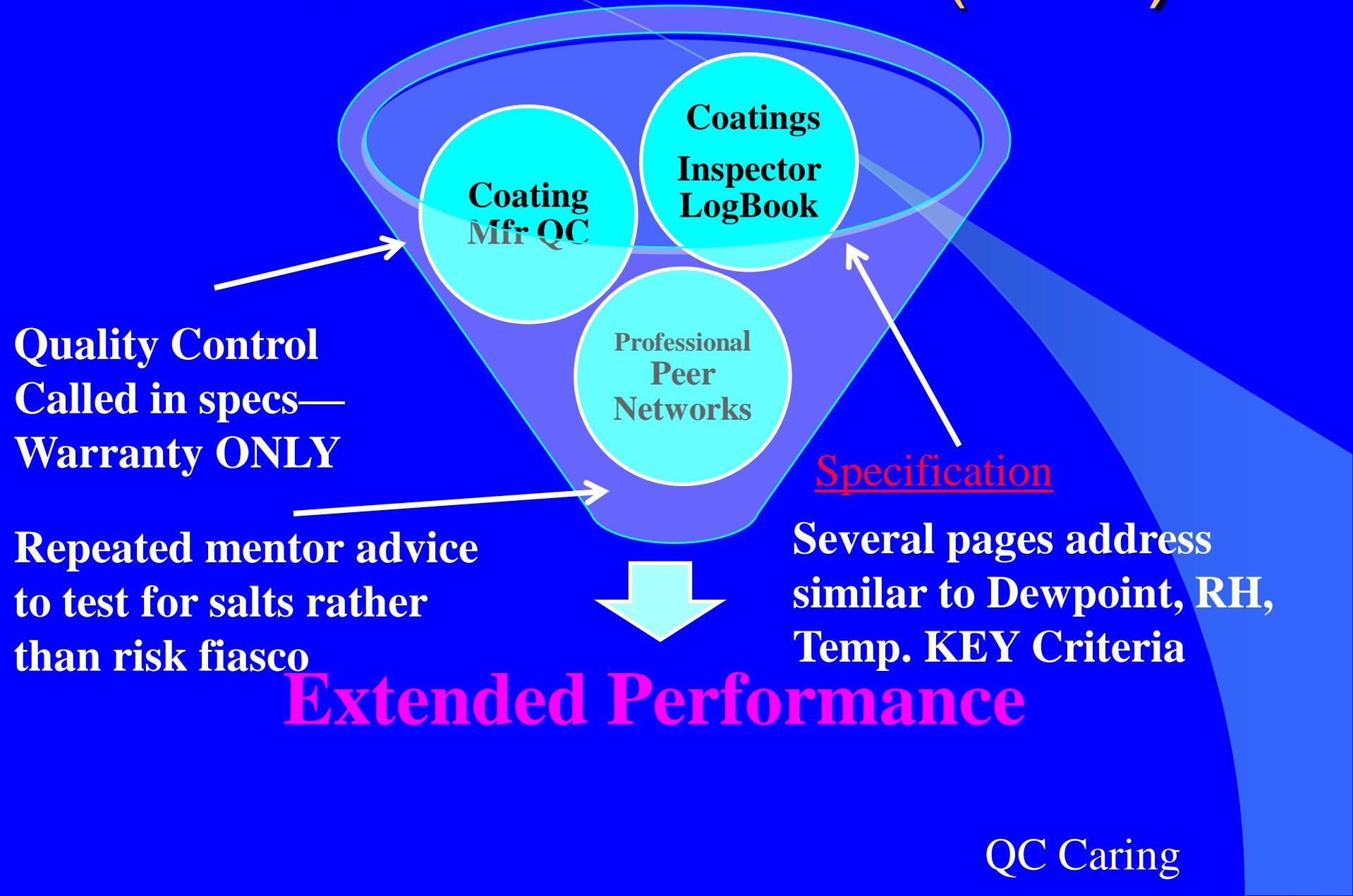
# Analysis for Nitrates

- Dip pillow end of nitrate strip into extracted solution for 2 seconds
- Wait 1 minute and compare color on pillow to color on comparator card
  - *NASA Gantry*
  - *St. Lawrence Seaway*

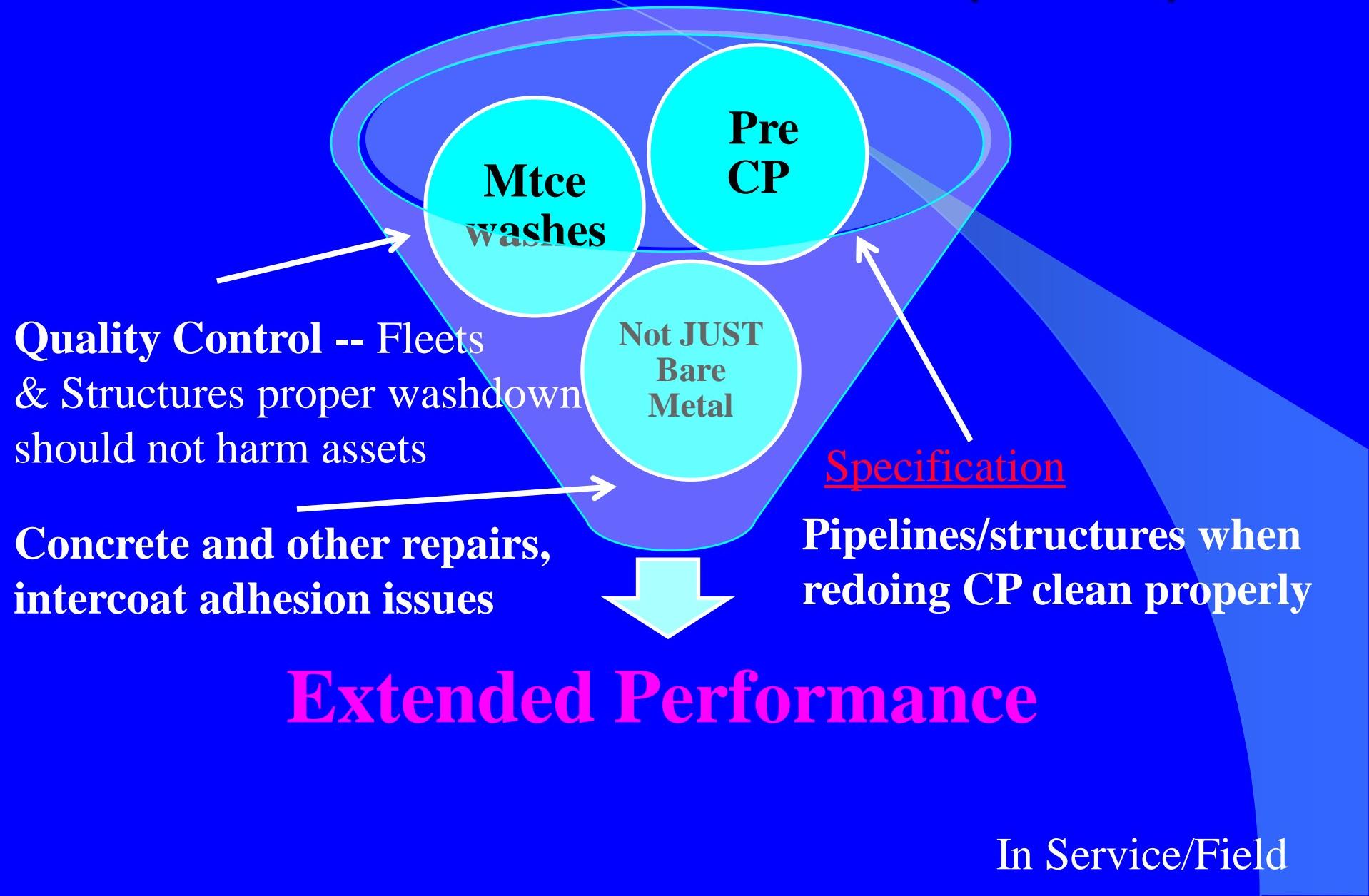
# BEST PRACTICES (BMP)



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# NAVSEA: 009-32 Standard Item

- Chloride limit: 3 µg/cm<sup>2</sup> immersion.
- FY-10: Water wash to meet the limit after abrasive blast.
  - Can require multiple washes.
- FY-11 (Prelim): Allows the use of an approved salt remover.
  - Approval via the F718 from the coating manufacturer

ONR funded research at Carderock and CTC,  
Johnstown support efficacy and acceptability of  
*an established and time tested soluble salt remover.*

# Surface Preparation Issue

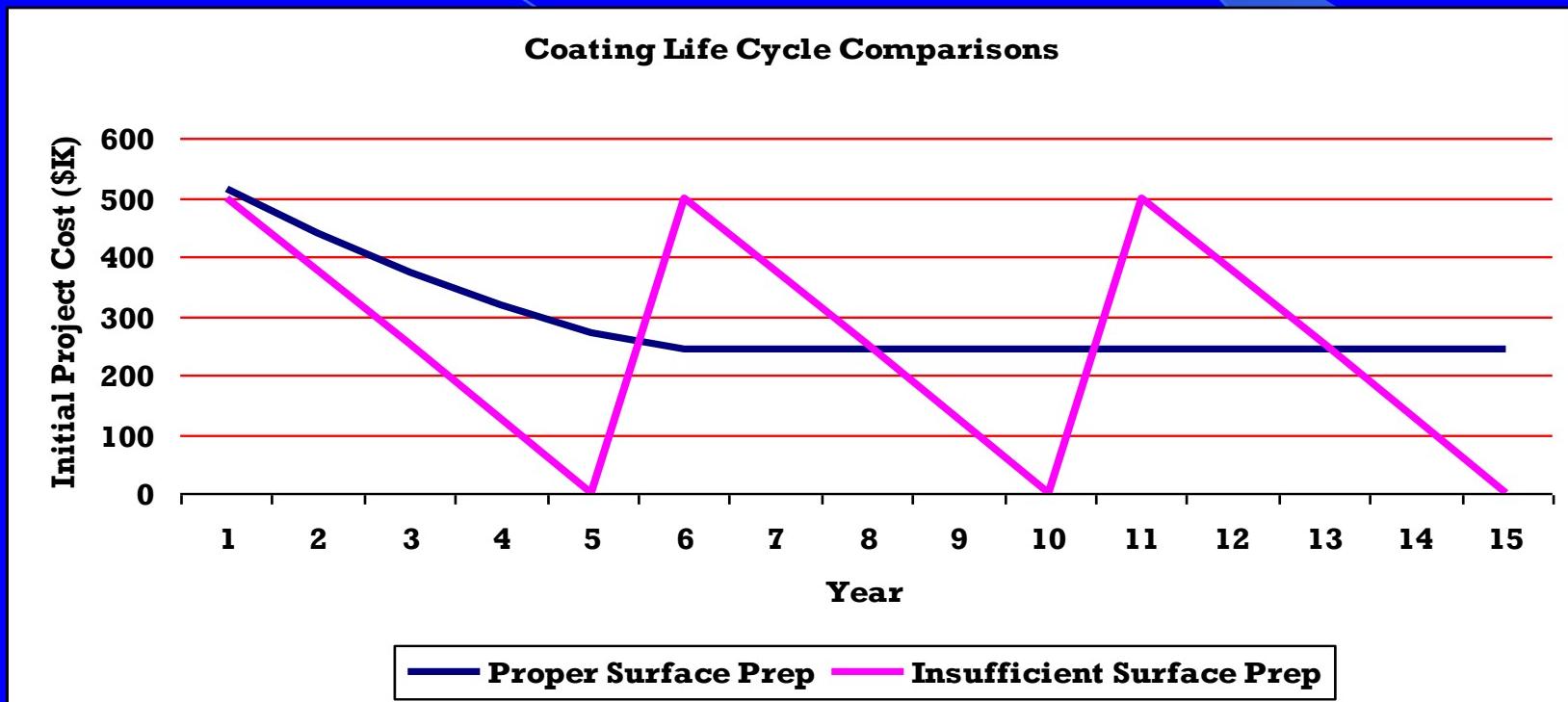
- Industry standards are generally visual.
- Present coatings cannot tolerate salts.
- Non-visible contaminants are getting more attention.
- Soluble salt removal is critical to coating life cycle performance.

# Coatings Economics

Goal: Achieve lowest cost/ft<sup>2</sup>/yr for the expect coating life

Total Surface Area:	90,000 ft <sup>2</sup>	Service: Tank Lining
Insufficient Surface Prep:	\$500,000	5 yr coating cycle
Proper Surface Prep:	\$515,000	15 yr coating cycle

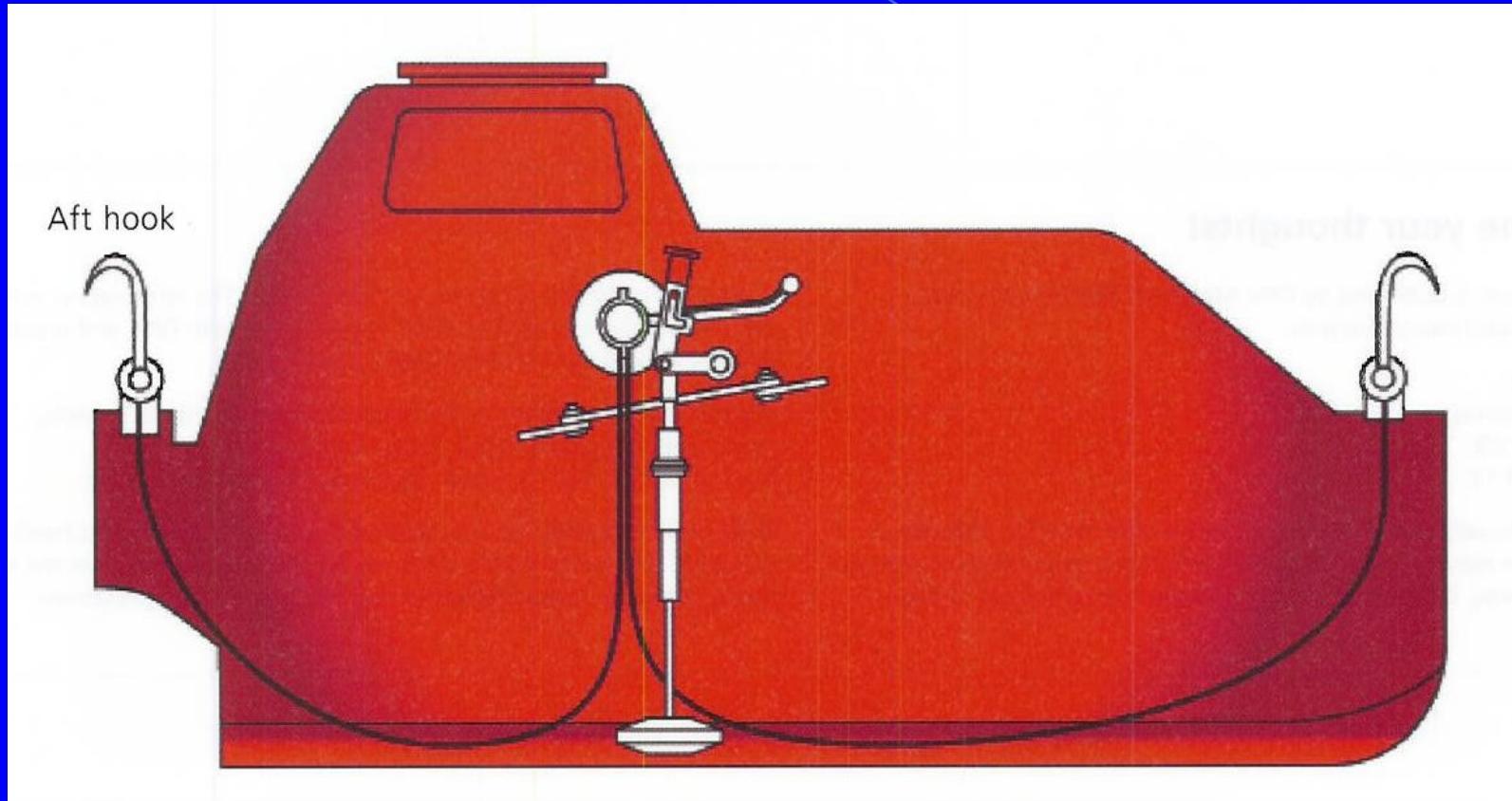
Cost/ft <sup>2</sup> /yr (today's \$):	Cost /yr over 15 yrs
Insufficient Surface Prep:	\$1.11/ft <sup>2</sup> /yr
Proper Surface Prep:	\$0.38/ft <sup>2</sup> /yr



Based on actual experience by NAVFAC since instituting revised specifications in 1995.

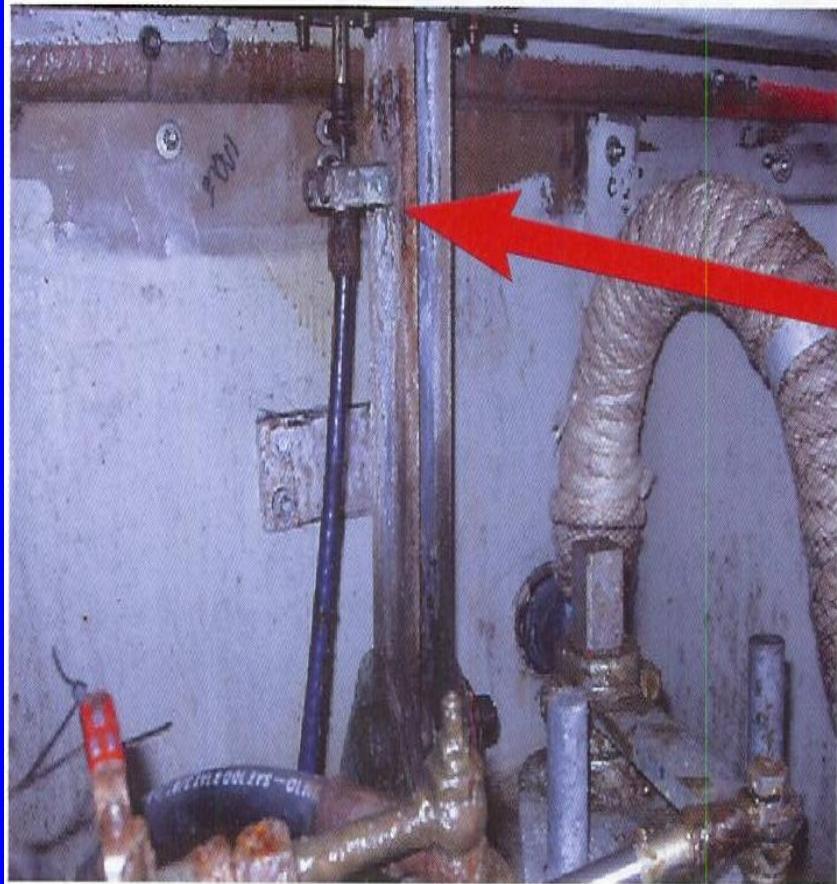


# Enclosed Lifeboat



PRIOR VIDEO and these next 5 slides courtesy of US Coast Guard

## Cable for aft hook



PRIOR VIDEO and these next 5 slides courtesy of US Coast Guard

# Case 1

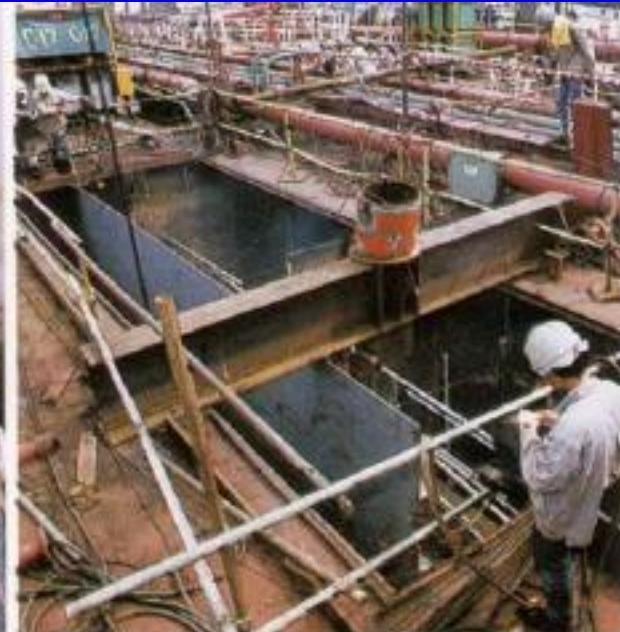
Type: Crude Oil Tanker

DWT: 135,000

Age Of Vessel : 16 Years,

Total Steel replacement : 1,200 Metric Tonnes

Case # 1..



Renewals were carried out on various internal structures in  
Cargo & Ballast tanks including areas on the bottom plating

PRIOR VIDEO and these next 5 slides courtesy of US Coast Guard

# Case 1

Case 1.. Cont'd..

The renewal Process on the Ship....

The  
Final  
Product



PRIOR VIDEO and these next 5 slides courtesy of US Coast Guard

# Case 2

Case 2..

Type: Oil Tanker , DWT: 108,628    Age Of Vessel : 15 Years,

Total Steel renewal was : 150 T .. And steel renewal was Limited only to Ballast tank areas...



**What happened :** Case # 1 = 1200 Tonnes and Case # 2 = 150 Tonnes.

**Reason :**

The Ship owner in Case # 2 did better Preventive Maintenance during her trading Years!!

PRIOR VIDEO and these next 5 slides courtesy of US Coast Guard

*The B-307 was flown to Dulles in  
2003 for delivery to the  
Smithsonian*



# Boeing Removes Corrosion Inducing Salts from Ditched Aircraft



# *Repairs:*



# Salt removal during Surface Preparation

## Why?

- ✓ Salts are a leading cause of coating failure today.
  - ✓ ~80% of coating failures due to salts
- ✓ Visual standards used are insufficient.
- ✓ Visual standards **were** adequate for lead paint applications.



Rusty Ammo Magazine



Rusty Ammo Magazine

# Soluble Salt Analysis and Removal Products Must Be:

- Proven
- Efficient
- Improve Adhesion
- Assist in removal of surface oils
- Cost effective
- Safe
- Easy to use
- Environmentally friendly